

WTOP Radio Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP
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WINN CLEARWATER: "The island of Saipan is in the news tonight. In San Francisco, newsman Fred Gerner of KCBS has the story of a once secret installation. Here's that report:"

FRED GERNER: "In 1952 the United States Navy closed the Island to outside visitors. Nearly \$30,000,000 was spent to create a series of permanent concrete structures on the north end and east end of the island. These units were called 'Naval technical training units,' but the Navy was a front--a front for one of the most elaborate spy schools in the world.

"During my stay on the island in 1960, and during a later visit in 1961, I learned of the top secret operation. For ten years the location of this spy school--in fact the very existence of the school--was one of America's most preciously guarded secrets. Only individuals with top security clearance could gain access to Saipan. Most of the trainees did not even know the exact area of the Pacific where they learned, from civilian professors, the art of espionage. They were flown in at night to Kagman Field, on the eastern side of the island, and taken in closed buses, with shades drawn, to one of the special areas in the jungle. When they departed, the same method was used. Their art is a special one. Parachuting behind, or infiltrating through communist lines, penetrating deep into the heart of communist countries on any one of a thousand assignments. Men with forged credentials, able to speak the language of the country they had penetrated.

"On my second visit to Saipan in 1961, I was permitted entrance to the secret area, and the shock was beyond description--there was a modern town, more handsomely constructed than most better-class suburbs in America. This was where the civilian experts lived. Nearly 100 two and three-bedroom homes, an apartment house for the single members of the teaching group--a beautiful auditorium, and

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